





-DAVE WEAVER

ETTING O

wo people rarely have so much in common. "Getting Out," a play by Pulitzer-Prize winner Marsha Norman, tells the story of two very similar people, Arlene and Arlie. So similar, in fact, they could be sisters.

But Arlene and Arlie aren't sisters. They're the same person at two different times in her life.

The final show of the season for University Theatre and directed by Keryl McCord, "Getting Out" stars Stephanie Anderson (on the left) as Arlene and Debbie Rawlings as Arlie.

"The flashbacks we see of Arlie directly relate to what's taking place with Arlene," Anderson said. Turn to page 5 for more.

THEATER

REGENTS FEEL COMFY

Members of the University of Nebraska Board of Regents feel "comfortable" about a proposal to restructure the state's system of public higher education, according to Regent Chairman Don Blank. The proposal, passed by the State Legislature Monday, will face a statewide test in November.

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A SAILING SCHOLAR

John Newton, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, sees smooth sailing on the horizon. Arts and Sciences, now UNO's largest college, is prepared to meet the challenges of the 1990s, Newton said. Despite the rigors of administrating the college, Newton also finds time for his favorite hobby—sailing. hobby—sailing.

OPTIONS

LINKING SIGHT AND SOUND

Dick Zlab and his seeing-eye dog Nacho can often be found in the Radio Talking Book service's (RTB) station. As station manager/ technical engineer/announcer, Zlab said he is dedicated to providing the visually impaired access to the print media. "Providing a link between these individuals and the printed word takes a creative approach," said Casey Randall, RTB's executive director.

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Rich Roberts broadcasts live from Rosenblatt Stadium.

SPORTS STUMPER

Which of the following Omaha sportscasters played volleyball at Plum High and went on to play doubles tennis with Boris Becker?

- A. Dave Webber
- B. Rich Roberts
- C. John Knicely
- D. Oral Roberts

The answer is B, Rich Roberts. As sports anchor at KMTV the past two years, Roberts has infused his obsession for sports into his broadcasts. Second in a three-part series.

SECOND PAGE

Blank: Plan will benefit state

By GREG KOZOL

Last-minute changes in the constitutional amendment to restructure the state's public higher education system have won tempered support from the University of Nebraska Board of Regents.

Regent Chairman Don Blank said the final version of Legislative Bill 1141, approved by the Legislature Monday, answered most of the regents' concerns. The bill will be placed on the November ballot.

"I called and explained it (the bill) to the other regents," Blank said. "I think the word is they're comfortable with it."

If approved by the voters, the bill will create a commission to coordinate Nebraska's public institutions of higher education. The Board of Regents and the State College Board of Trustees would continue to govern the universities and state colleges.

Another proposal to restructure higher education, Legislative Resolution 239, did not pass Monday.

Blank criticized LB 1141 when it was proposed on the 58th day of the Legislative session.

"It was very, very quickly drawn up. It was so vague," Blank said. "It said the coordinating commission is going to coordinate. You've got to have more than that."

Last weekend, Blank, Regent Kermit

Hansen and Sens. Ron Withem and Jerome Warner met to discuss the bill. Their discussions resulted in a clearly defined bill and a coordinating commission that would benefit higher education, Blank said.

"Withem and Warner basically rewrote the bill," he said. "I think there is going to be a great deal of benefit for the state."

The greatest improvement to the bill, Blank said, was that the coordinating commission was given specific powers.

Under the bill, the commission has authority to modify budgets, monitor educational programs and define the role and mission of each institution.

The commission, if established, would not change the regents' role, Blank said.

"We're still going to coordinate. We're still working with the administration for new programs and new plans," he said.

However, the regents will concentrate on coordination and governance at UNO, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

The coordinating commission will become the first statewide body to develop a comprehensive plan between the seven campuses, Blank said.

The commission will prevent duplication of programs between those institutions, Blank said

"There's going to be a commission saying 'Yes, you made the right decision' or 'No, you didn't,'" he said.

Currently, the Legislature acts as the coordinating body between campuses, Blank said. "It's tough for the Legislature to enforce role and mission," he said.

Another change, Blank said, is that the commission will prevent duplication between the state's community and technical colleges and the four-year colleges and universities. The technical and community colleges were not included in the original bill.

Although technical and community colleges are funded from a different tax base than state colleges and universities, the commission can modify their budgets, Blank said.

If an institution's program duplicates a program on another campus, the commission can void that program, no matter how it is funded, Blank said.

The cooperation between regents and state senators helped iron out the final proposal, Blank said.

"This wasn't give and take," Blank said.
"We all wanted the same goal, to improve higher education. It was very cooperative, very harmonious.

"The only painful thing was Sen. Withem had an abscessed tooth," Blank said.



A beacon of light

Vice President Dan Quayle makes a quick nourishment stop while campaigning for Republican Senate candidate Hal Daub in Omaha Tuesday. In an Old Market shop, Quayle and Daub down chocolate eclairs. Quayle visited Nebraska to promote Daub and other Republican candidates.

Senators question McClenny's trip

By PATRICK RUNGE

Chris McClenny, former director of the Council for Community and Legislative Relations (CCLR), may be gone, but he is not forgotten

McClenny, who announced his resignation as director March 22, attended the United States Student Association convention in Washington last month.

Before the April 9 Student Senate meeting, McClenny presented information from the conference to some Student Government members. McClenny did not give a presentation to the full senate.

"I felt it was very successful," McClenny said. "Many senators' questions were answered in the report and in the questions they asked."

At the senate meeting, some members of Student Government questioned the value of McClenny's trip to the conference. In January, the senate allocated \$712 for McClenny's trip.

"It seems like Chris got his trip to Washington, and now he's leaving," Sen. Mike McClaurin said. McClenny defended the trip by citing CCLR's letter-writing campaign. McClenny brought a number of letters asking for support of higher education from UNO

students to Nebraska's congressmen

"We took 88 letters to Washington," McClenny said. "Some of the people complaining didn't bother to participate in the letter-writing campaign, even though I all but put the pen in their hands.

"It's easy to sit on the outside and knock other people's programs," McClenny said. "I think they should find out what is going on before they start throwing stones."

Sen. Ray Remijio said he thought the trip was valuable.

"There was some very good information there," he said. "I wish he (McClenny) was staying around to put it into action."

Senate Speaker Mary Reynolds thought the conference was worth the investment.

"The information we got back was just as valuable, if not more so, than the information we would get when we were funding student organizations going to conferences," Reynolds said.

McClenny said he brought back information about the status of financial aid for students.

"We discussed the need to transfer the emphasis of financial aid from loans back to grants," McClenny said. "Too many students

are graduating into debt."

-DAVE WEAVER

He also said the process of applying for financial aid needs to be simplified.

"Right now it is so complex people are being dissuaded from applying for financial aid," McClenny said. "They are intimidated by the complex form."

Remijio said he found the information on scholarships valuable.

"There is scholarship money available for non-traditional students, up to the age of about 27," Remijio said. "The average age at UNO is 27."

Remijio said Creighton University and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln receive money from this scholarship, but UNO does not.

"For a non-traditional campus like UNO, this type of scholarship is ideal," Remijio said.

McClenny also discussed racial topics raised at the conference.

"Instead of an entire Black Studies department or Native American Studies department, we need to integrate it into all coursework," McClenny said. "Why don't we study Martin Luther King, Jr. or Malcolm X as much as we do white, Anglo-Saxon orators?"

NEWS LINE LOCAL NEWS EVENTS AND INFORMATION

Empty office filled in Eppley

Lew Conner has been named UNO's new registrar, filling an office that was left vacant when William Gerbracht retired last year.

Conner comes to UNO from the Advancement Institute and the Collin County Community College District in Plano, Texas.

"I grew up in Iowa," Conner said. "My wife and I believe this is a nice place to raise children."

Conner received his bachelor's degree in business administration from Central College in Pella, Iowa, and a master's degree in counseling and personnel services from Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa.

The Registrar's Office is responsible for all registration of classes on campus, input of grades, sending of transcripts to students, scheduling, course offerings, grade processing, commencement, posting of degrees, record maintenance of credit for undergraduate and graduate students and coordination of data from colleges administrators and students.

"I'm very happy to be a part of UNO," Conner said.

Tony Brown is back, on video

Due to popular demand, the videotape of Tony Brown's Feb. 12 speech at UNO will be offered for free viewing in the Student Center Council Room. Scheduled times are Tuesday, April 17, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Monday, April 23, from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Revenge of the jerks

For those too young to remember the jerks who ruled the soda fountain, your time has come

Former soda jerks from across the nation will gather at the Western Heritage Museum in Omaha for America's only Soda Jerk Reunion Sunday, May 20, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Those "former dispensers of the fountain," most popular between the 1920s and the 1950s, will be given free admission, a soda jerk hat, a deluxe hot-fudge sundae and a listing in the country's only Soda Jerk National Registry.

The soda fountain was a popular stopover for travelers between 1931 and 1971 when the museum was Union Station, Omaha's major railway passenger terminal. A museum volunteer organization, the Redcaps, restored and opened the soda fountain in 1984, and the first annual Soda Jerk Reunion followed in 1985.

We didn't do it

UNO Student President/Regent Kelli Sears had her car stereo stolen over the weekend.

"It probably happens to the majority of students on campus," she said.

Sears said she now sings and talks to herself in her car.

OPINION

Good luck, regents

It's Friday the 13th, but members of the University of Nebraska Board of Regents sure are lucky.

The black cat of extinction was about to cross the regents' path, but the Legislature broke that spell with a new potion called Legislative Bill 1141.

Let's look into the crystal ball and see how this all started.

In January, the Unicameral introduced Legislative Resolution 239. If approved, the resolution would have abolished the Board of Regents and the State College Board of Trustees and created a vastly improved system of public higher education in Nebraska.

STAFF EDITORIAL

A "superboard" would have provided much-needed coordination between UNO, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the University of Nebraska Medical Center and the four state colleges. Individual boards would have governed each campus.

This system would have benefited students on all campuses.

But the resolution failed to catch fire in the Legislature, and the regents opposed it with the fervor of a Salem witch trial.

The Legislature, in a pragmatic effort to improve a faulty system, offered LB 1141 - a compromise between the current system and the one proposed by LR 239.

Under LB 1141, a coordinating commission will do what the superboard would have done. But the regents and trustees will remain to govern their respective campuses, even though the individual boards proposed by LR 239 could have done that job more efficiently.



With this compromise, the students kind of get what they need. The legislators kind of get what they want.

And the regents get everything. Good luck.

Bill will miss UNO fashion land

With graduation just a month away, I'm not all that anxious to rejoin the "real world." I've enjoyed campus life for many reasons, but campus fashion — or lack of it — truly endears me to UNO.

The range of fashion extends from threepiece suits to cut-offs with an infinite variety in between. A student would probably have to show up stark naked to even turn a head.

As a card-carrying fashion derelict, the campus is my ideal environment. If I wear a sweat shirt that doesn't quite match my pants, nobody notices.

In a sense, my years in the Air Force gave me the same sort of fashion exemption. In the Air Force, I knew exactly what to wear to work every day. At UNO, it doesn't matter what I wear. In both cases there's no pressure to impress anyone with what I have on.

Unfortunately, I'm married to a clothesconscious woman. Like genuine GM parts, she believes clothes should not just fit; they

As you might expect, my nonchalant attitude toward clothing style is a constant

source of irritation to her. She has badgered me for more than 20 years about what I should buy and what I should wear.

I've more or less knuckled under when it comes to what I should wear. If we're going somewhere besides campus, I just let her lay my clothes out, and I put them on. Again, no decision required.

The real problem arises when it comes time to buy clothes.



"You need some new shirts (rants, coats, ties, you name it). You look like a refugee from the bargain basement."

I hate to shop.

Since I don't much care what I wear (as long as it's not loud or flamboyant), I consider shopping for clothes a waste of my time and money.

Over the years I have resisted most of her efforts to coax me into men's stores. But she recently scored a coup by insisting I needed a new suit for my son's wedding.

So I agreed to buy a suit for the wedding. But while I tried on the first suit. My wife teamed up with the red-headed sales lady with dangling brass earrings resembling my son's pickup tires.

Pretty soon, the whole process was out of control. They kept handing me things through the dressing room door.

"This goes great with your gray hair," they cooed in unison. Pass the Grecian Formula.

"We'll have to shorten this sleeve. Did you know one of your arms was longer than the other?" (My book bag arm, no doubt.)

At one point, the sales lady brought out a bright paisley tie and a pink shirt. My wife shook her head, knowing there were barriers she could not penetrate.

Nevertheless, by the time I left the store, my "suit for the wedding" became two suits, a blazer, a pair of pants and two ties. I'm sure I personally financed that sales lady's trip to Hawaii next summer.

I will indeed miss the wonderfully eclectic UNO dress code.

EDITORS OPINION BY ELIZABETH OMMACHEN

Are sleeping tickets next?

A bright light flooded the Gateway office at about 6 a.m. Thursday.

Rushing to shut it off before her 2-yearold son woke up, the startled Gateway writer found herself face to face with a lone Campus Security officer.

After about 16 hours of writing, she had decided to take a short break only to be told it just wasn't allowed.

"You can't sleep on campus," he informed her, eyeing the child.

"We've been up all night working, and I was just taking a rest," she explained.

"Well, you just can't sleep on campus," he said, graciously adding that he wouldn't wake up her sleeping son.

Although most Campus Security officers seem to empathize with an occasional allnight writing spree, Mr. Guard seemed to be on unfamiliar ground.

Although he may consider the Gateway staffers to be transients, most of us do have alternative addresses other than Annex 26.

dobviously must not frequent Mr. Gu the library NO classrooms if he considers " sieeping" a university rule. Perhaps Campus Security officers should be armed with alarm clocks.

Early this semester, two Gateway editors had another clash with Campus Security.

While playing Frisbee in a parking lot at 2 a.m., they were informed by UNO's trusty men-without-guns that "the campus is

Although playing Frisbee at 2 a.m. may be uncommon, Campus Security does not always interfere in the unusual.

When one Gateway editor tried to break into his own car with a coat hanger, a Campus Security officer passing by did not even question the suspicious-looking act.

However, these days Campus Security seems to be keeping pretty busy.

In addition to their renowned parking tickets, they give speeding tickets, too. Perhaps sleeping tickets will be another step forward for these faithful fellows in blue.

Picture it: Chancellor Del Weber leaning back in his desk after a hard day of administrating. He shuts his eyes for just a moment when he hears a persistent tap at his door.

"Del, I'm sorry, but sleeping on campus just isn't allowed," Mr. Guard would say. 'Nope, no exceptions Del. Next time I'l have to give you a sleeping ticket."



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SCHOLASTIC PRESS

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RIDING THE WAVES



In his 30-year career at UNO, John Newton, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said he has seen more than one turning point in the university's history. *Certainly the major turning point would be in 1968, when UNO became part of the university system," he said. "Other turning points would be when Ronald Roskens became chancellor and when Milo Bail retired (as president of Omaha University). This university became a different place."

Arts and Sciences dean hopes for a swing toward enlightenment

By John Watson

he photos and drawings of sailboats on the walls of foreign languages. John Newton's office tell only part of his story. As dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Newton rarely finds time for one of his passions skimming the waves in the 10-foot sailboat he made will play," he said. "Clearly, you can see the link there." himself.

"I'm not a real sailor in the sense of going out and racing boats," Newton said. "It's a way of relaxing."

But under Newton's guidance, the College of Arts and Sciences also is sailing — heading into the 1990s on the crest of a wave and at full sail.

"There are many interesting things on the horizon," he said. Within the past two years, Newton said new general education requirements have been established for UNO students.

Although the new requirements are not as extensive as he would have liked, Newton said they are a "major step for-

One positive aspect of that step forward is the increased number of students that will enroll in the College of Arts and

"We are the general education college in the university, so there will be students taking many more Arts and Science classes throughout the university," he said.

According to Newton, those students will now have requirements in mathematics, public speaking and, in addition to basic English composition, one advanced writing course will be required.

Also, Newton said he would like to see greater emphasis on

DEAN'S

A LOOK AT COLLEGE ADMINISTRATORS

The College of Arts and Sciences also will play a major role in UNO's new Aviation Institute, Newton said.

"They are already talking about the role computer science

He said the psychology department will participate in the Aviation Institute through aviation psychology.

"Aviation psychology has played an important role in every single aviation institute-type program in the country that I know of, and there's no reason that it shouldn't happen here," he said.

Newton began his career at UNO in 1960 as an assistant psychology professor. He was promoted to associate professor in 1963, professor and department chairman in 1967 and dean of the college in 1974.

Throughout his 30 years at UNO, Newton has seen many changes, in the campus and in the students.

"There have been cyclical changes," he said, "We went from the liberalism of the '60s to the greater conservatism."

He said the current wave of conservatism, according to the cycle, should soon give way to a rise in liberalism. "Your guess is as good as mine."

However, Newton said that increase in liberalism may not entirely explain this semester's record enrollment in the College of Arts and Sciences.

"We hope it's a swing toward enlightenment," he said. "It's recognized that the College of Arts and Sciences offers a greater variety of opportunities."

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP NEW STUDENTS ON CAMPUS?



CRITERIA:

- 2.0 GPA
- Undergraduate student
- Good communication skills
- Plan on being enrolled for both Fall 1990 and Spring 1991 semesters
- Involved in some co-curricular activity (i.e. student government, clubs, organizations, varsity sports, Ambassadors, etc.)

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE?

- · Give new students a current student
- contact person on campus
- Involve current students in the retention efforts of the university
- Encourage new student involvement in co-curricular activities

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For more information or applications contact:

Terry Forman, MBSC, Office of Student Activities 554-2711

Student Government is now accepting applications for the following agency director positions:

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- Disabled Students Agency
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and

 Council For Community and Legislative Relations

Get involved with YOUR university. You can make the difference.

DEADLINE: May 1, 1990

Pick up applications in MBSC 134 or call 554-2620



ESCAPIST PLAY

BY DAVE MANNING

ometimes, the knight in shining armor just doesn't make it.

Ask Keryl McCord — not that she knows by experience, but she "knows" someone who does.

McCord, the managing director of the Oakland Ensemble Theatre (OET) in Oakland, Ca., has taken the director's chair for University Theatre's last production of the season, "Getting Out."

"I've wanted to do the play since "78 or '79," McCord said. "I got a phone call at my theater company in January from Doug Paterson."

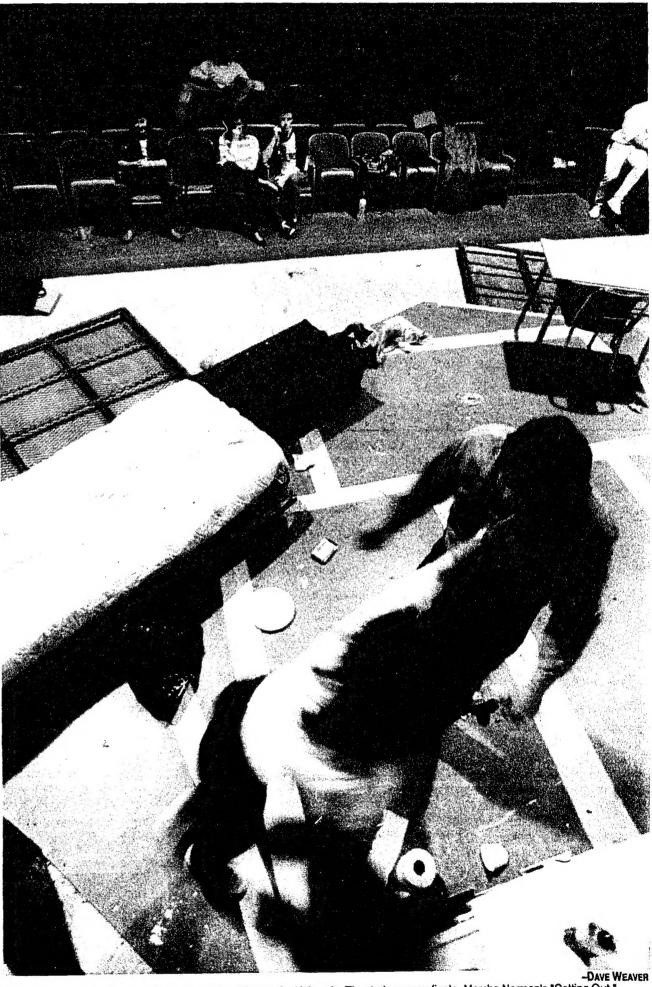
Paterson, chairman of UNO's Dramatic Arts department, had been given her name by a mutual acquaintance, and he wanted to know if she was interested in directing, McCord said.

"I said, 'Oh, sure. A chance to direct.' I'd been running a company for five years," McCord said, adding she didn't really give it much thought and just said, "Yes."

Two years ago McCord made her directorial debut with the OET production of "The Meeting," a what-if dialogue between Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcom X, and examined the two men's beliefs.

The play, set in a Harlem hotel room one week before the latter's assassination, earned McCord rave reviews and the OET its largest crowds ever.

When Paterson called her, McCord said she jumped at the chance. "It's such a rich piece, a tapestry," McCord said. "It's about the illusions



Take It from the top: Rehearsals are currently underway for University Theatre's season finale, Marsha Norman's "Getting Out."

one woman has about her life after getting out of prison."

The play also examines the illusion of the prison system, McCord said. "No matter what you call them, they're people behind bars."

The main character in "Getting Out" is actu-

ally two versions of the same woman, sharing a common identity and similar names.

Arlene, recently released from prison, is the woman struggling to put her life back in order, although it has never been orderly.

SEE GETTING OUT ON PAGE 11



CHURCH GETS A FIX

or those of you not familiar with stock market lingo, Gold Afternoon Fix is the price of gold which is set every afternoon and fixed overnight.

And for those of you not familiar with alternative music, Gold Afternoon Fix is the title of the latest album by the Church.

Although the Church has been together for 10 years, members Steve Kilbey, Mary Willson-Piper and Peter Koppes have released nine solo albums between them.

With so much outside activity going on, the Church might be expected to be on the verge of disintegration, but that is not the case according to the group's bassist and principal vocalist/lyricist, Kilbey.

"I think what's happened is that everyone's got their things off their chest," he said. "No one's got an axe to grind, coming on and saying, 'I've written this song I want to do.' Now it's more like everyone's got their stuff done, everyone wants to interact more."

Gold Afternoon Fix is indeed a true collaboration. The band co-wrote all the music, and the lyrics are sung by whichever band member wrote them.

Kilbey said Waddy Wachtel, who co-produced the album with the band, was a main contributor to the album.

"It's strange—because I listen to the record now, and it's almost mathematical in its perfection. Everything's happening where it should be; it's as if all the guitars and everything have become all these little machines working away in clockwork," Kilbey said. "Waddy was very instrumental in getting it to sound like that."

According to Kilbey, the band shows a new directness of approach both musically and lyrically on Gold Afternoon Fix. This new directness is most apparent on "You're Still Beautiful," Kilbey said.

"I've wanted to get a bit more of a bite into the Church on all levels—I think for too long we've been sort of dreamy. After going around the world for two years and touring, I'm filled with this desire to more or less tell it how it is," Kilbey said. "I don't want to lose that surrealistic side that obviously attracted people to us in the first place—but three or four years ago I wouldn't have written that song, because I would have thought it was too much. Life is full of nasty little surprises, and I want to start conveying that."

The Church is currently preparing for a world tour.

"I think we're going to rock out a little bit more," Kilbey said. "But once again, these things move in curves—and after doing these songs for a year on the road, we might totally curve away from it and go back to being hazy and vague and dreamy again."

And what does Gold Afternoon Fix mean to Kilbey?

"To me, now," he said, "the phrase means a record to play on a nice afternoon."



THE BEASTY BALLET

allet Omaha will bring the childhood classic "Beauty and the Beast" to life in the Orpheum Theatre April 20.
"I think it's a wonderful story, and it naturally lent itself to a full-length story ballet," Artistic Director Robert Vickrey said. "The dramatic possibilities were wonderful. It has also been done successfully by other companies."

Vickrey conceived the idea of making "Beauty and the Beast" into a ballet for his company about two years ago.

This ballet examines an unlikely love that grows between Beauty and a handsome prince trapped in a "beastly" body. Although it is a children's story, Vickrey said adults also will enjoy the performance.

"It has a universal theme of justice triumphing over evil," he said. "It's not a Disney cartoon or a Fellini movie. It's a happy in between."

While producing this ballet, Vickrey enlisted the help of renowned choreographer Bruce Wells.

Wells, a former principal dancer with the New York City Base! and the Boston Ballet, also has choreographed versions of "Coppelia," "Firebird" and "Midsummer Night's Dream," which are currently part of the Ballet Omaha's repertory.

"Wells is, in this country, the best teller of a story right now," Vickrey said. "He is able to reduce a story to its basics, embellish it and then choose music to accompany it."

Besides choreographing the ballet, Wells also chose the music for the production. He selected a score comprised of music from two full-length ballets, "La Source" and "Sylvia."

Music Director William Jenks rearranged the two scores into a single piece for "Beauty and the Beast."

"Wells created a marriage between the music and the drama," Vickrey said. "The music helps tell the story."

The production staff also was challenged, trying to design a set which reflected the drama of a classic love story and the fantasy of a fairy tale, Vickrey said.

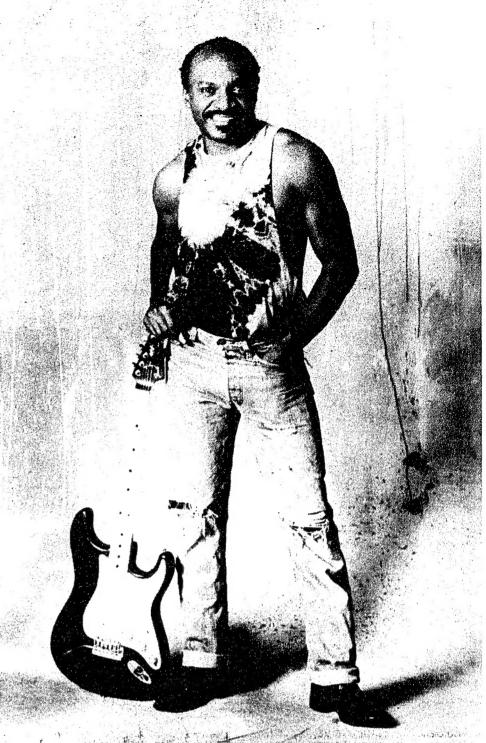
Lewis Folden, a New York City scenic designer, completed the design, and the set is being constructed locally.

"It was hard trying to design a set encompassing all the elements," Vickrey said. "The ballet takes place mostly in the forest, the beast's castle and the home of Beauty."

"Beauty and the Beast," the last performance of Ballet Omaha's 1989-90 season, will run through April 22.

-SARAH SMOCK

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Bass guitarist Ernie Isley will open for Stevie Ray Vaughan at the Music Hall April 22.

I WISH I WAS JIMI

rnie Isley is stepping out on the High Wire.

"High Wire is about balance and tension," Isley said. "Once you're up

there, the situation is: go straight ahead. There is no safety net."

Performing songs from High Wire, his first

album without the Isley Brothers, Isley will open for Stevie Ray Vaughan at the Civic Auditorium Music Hall April 22 at 7:30 p.m.

"I grew up watching this entity, the Isley Brothers," Isley said. "It was like firecrackers every time they were around."

Isley said he remembers when his brothers needed a guitar player and Kelly Isley brought home "this left-handed guy from Greenwich Village who supposedly could play better than anybody working with James Brown or Jackie Wilson."

So broke that the Isleys had to help him get

his guitar out of hock, Jimi Hendrix moved into Ernie's mother's home in Inglewood, N.J.

"He did things without an amp in his bedroom that were more amazing than the records," Isley said. "I was so privileged to hear that. Even if nobody had ever discovered what cotton candy tastes like, I'd know that I'd had a taste."

He said he caught his "first taste of footlight fever" at an early age when his brothers invited him on stage to sing the original "Twist and Shout."

Now he said the guitar is his inspiration.
"I can be standing alone in a room with a
guitar and that's enough, the world doesn't
matter," he said. "You can feel a note before you
play it; you're being instructed. If the inspiration

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TIME'S ALMOST UP

is there, you can play anything."

he end is near for the Omaha Symphony's Chamber Orchestra and SuperPops 1989-90 concert season.

Performing Handel's "Messiah," the Chamber Orchestra's final concerts will be held in Joslyn Art Museum's Witherspoon Concert Hall April 27 and 28 at 7 p.m.

"Handel's most popular choral work deals not only with faith, but also with beauty," said Omaha Symphony Conductor Bruce Hangen. "It is as easy to get swept away in the glory of its sound as it is to be moved by its message."

Renowned composer/pianist Marvin Hamlisch will join the symphony for both Omaha SuperPops performances, as well as a third performance in Lincoln's Lied Center May 6 at 2 p.m.

Hamlisch has been repeatedly recognized for his musical ability, including three Academy Awards: two for "The Way We Were" and one for "The Sting." His first Broadway show, "A Chorus Line," received the Tony Award, the New York Critic's Award and the Pulitzer Prize.

AN OBOE FOR EASTER

ome people might be a little bit tired of playing the oboe after 35 years, but not UNO Music Professor Kermit Peters.

Peters began playing the oboe in 1955, when he was a sophomore in college.

"I thought there was more future in it (playing the oboe), and I liked it," he said.

Because of his interest in playing the oboe, Peters said he performs in at least one oboe recital every year.

Peters will perform in a faculty oboe recital Sunday at the Strauss Performing Arts Center. He will be joined on stage by four other UNO faculty members: pianists Sondra Peters and Harold Payne, clarinetist Carmelo Galante and bassoonist James Compton.

The recital will open with an oboe and organ duet written by Johann Sebastian Bach, which was featured at an Easter Sunday church service in 1736.

Peters said Bach composed pieces for every Sunday during the year, adding that the piece they will be performing is "particularly appropriate for the text of resurrection."

Other composers to be featured in the recital are Francis Poulenc, Frank Martin, Jean Francaix, Oliver Messaien and Carl Nielsen. Peters said these pieces are "melodic, and fun to listen to."

"We are trying to appeal to a general audience," he said. Peters said the oboe is "a bit esoteric," adding that recitals featuring oboes are uncommon.

"The oboe is a beautiful instrument," he said. "I'm promoting the instrument, I quess."

The recital will be held Sunday at 3 p.m. in the UNO Strauss Performing Arts Center Recital Hall.

-SARAH SMOCK

0



'GOD LOVES LITTLE FAT GIRLS'

o patent leather shoes really reflect up? Are boys really reminded of beds by white tablecloths in restaurants? Do they really have only two urges: hunger and sex?

Does God really love little fat girls?
Do good Catholic girls really carry around telephone books just in case they have to sit on a boy's lap in a crowded car?

These and other burning issues are the subject of John Powers' "Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?" which opens at the Upstairs Dinner Theatre tonight.

"Do Black Patent..." takes a playfully nostalgic look at the Catholic school environment from second grade to high school graduation.

"As a good Catholic boy myself, I couldn't go too far wrong," said Director John Morrissey.

To achieve authenticity, Morrissey and the cast visited Lincoln's St. Pius X, Morrissey's former grade school.

"We arrived when the second graders were on the playground," he said, recalling their visit. "They (the cast members) immediately picked themselves out among the children playing."

This play chronicles the special friendship between Eddie and Becky, beginning with their elementary school days at St. Bastion's.

The two often reveal their problems to Father O'Reilly in periodic confessions.

In one scene, Eddie confesses to Father O'Reilly that he has stolen \$5 from his father to buy a pagan baby in the mission drive.

Father shows surprising compassion for a disciplinarian who usually can't resist rapping the boys on their heads with his missilette when he passes by.

"Father O'Reilly's role shows the human inward qualities of priests," Morrissey said.

The cast romps on stage, nuns and priest included, through this humorous musical comedy. And Catholicism is not a prerequisite for the audience. "Do Black Patent..." appeals to "publics," as well as former Catholic school kids. This play promises laughs and a healthy dose of nostalgia for all.

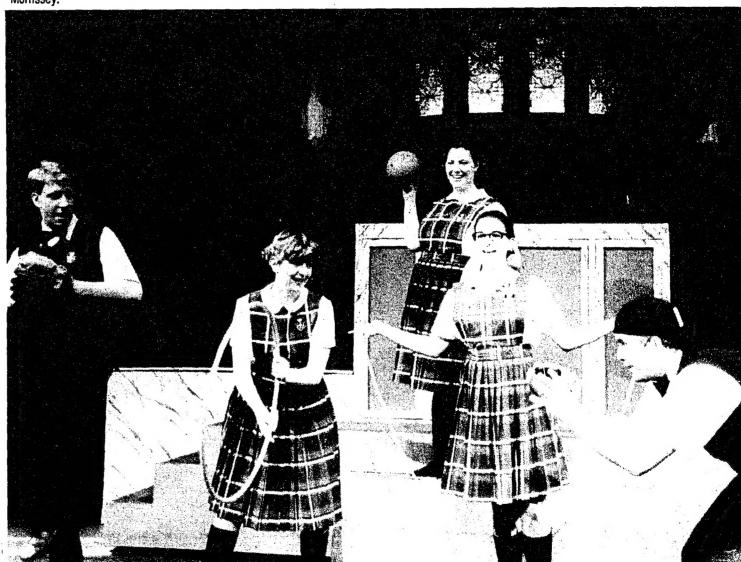
"Although the characters of Eddie and Becky are central to the action of the play," Morrissey said. "It's more of an ensemble show. I'm really

pleased with the ensemble sound and the way the actors play off of one another."

And the Upstairs Dinner Theatre is a perfect setting for "Do Black Patent...," according to Morrissey.

"A dinner theater lends itself to the smaller situation of the play," he said. "The actors can react more to the audience."

"Do Black Patent..." runs through June 16.
-KATHLEEN HALL



Recess! "Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?" cast members Bryan Schmoldt, Ginny Sheehan, Pegeen Reilly, Jenny Coyan and Stan Parker chronicle the perils of a Catholic education.



INSIGHT

BY MELANIE WILLIAMS

LINKING SIGHT AND SOUND

button. Zlab's white Labrador retriever. Nacho, cocked his head with

interest from under the counter. In simultaneous motion, Zlab quickly flipped switches, grabbed a cas-

speaking live to his radio audience. "Well, they did it to me again," he announced cheerfully into the microphone, preparing his listeners for four minutes of public service announcements. Ap-

sette tape from a nearby box and began

parently, a volunteer's 30-minute taped segment had come up four minutes short.

At the Radio Talking Book Service, Inc. (RTB), 620 S. 31st St., Zlab, 62, fills the shoes of station manager, technical engineer, announcer and comic-in-residence.

"I'm also the waste-basket dumper," he laughed.

Since RTB was established in 1974, it continues as Nebraska's only radio network devoted to helping the blind and print handicapped to remain abreast of daily news.

Since Zlab himself had minimal vision as a child, and completely lost his sight at the age of 35, he knows RTB provides an important service.

RTB's private transmission can only be picked up by using a special pre-programmed receiver.

About 8,000 of these receivers, scattered throughout Nebraska, can pick up RTB's 18-hour broadcast each day. The schedule offers a wide variety of programming for those who find it difficult to see, read or even turn the pages of a newspaper, said RTB Executive Director K.Casey Randall.

"There's a concept called 'communi-

cation overload,' where we are bombarded with the media from all directions." Randall said. "And so much of the information in our lives is printed."

Randall said that is one area RTB attempts to help.

"Providing the link between these individuals and the printed word takes a creative approach," he said, adding any print handicapped person may

ick Zlab turned abruptly in mid-sentence and pressed a black acquire a free special receiver in his home.

"There is no way we could even conceive of charging for our services," "The time is 4:26," declared the clock's mechanical voice, as Randall said. "People need to remember that handicapped people are either unemployed or underemployed, so their budgets are already stretched."

A person interested in obtaining a receiver needs only to fill out an ap-

plication and have it certified by two people who can verify their need, Randall said.

"We leave it open, because we don't want it to be too difficult," he said.

After 15 years at RTB, Zlab agreed that the service's importance is the reason the work is so rewarding.

"Many of our listeners had sight all of their lives and then lost it," Zlab said. "The gratitude they express for what we do makes it all worthwhile."

Zlab said it can be frustrating when society does not try to understand the special needs of the blind, such as the difficulty in following a movie or a play.

"You (a visually-impaired person) could be completely caught up in a movie and follow it all the way to the end. But then you hear a shot, and somebody rides off into the sunset. The problem is you don't know who shot who," Zlab said.

Zlab said he lost his former business because of "improvements in technology."

From 1946 to 1955, when radios were larger, he owned his own radio repair service.

"I learned to service radios by sound and feel. I could trace a problem out," he said. "But now it has gotten away from me. The inside of the circuit boards are so compact these days. It put me out of business when these printed circuits came along."

Reaching into a nearby desk drawer,

Zlab pulled out an example of a modern circuit and ran his fingers over the two-inch-square piece, demonstrating the difficulty of differentiating between various wires.

However, he did not let technology keep him from the radio business. Aware of the need for reading the paper, pointing out coupons and describing ads, Zlab said his 15 years with RTB has been fulfilling.



Although Dick Zlab's seeing-eye dog Nacho makes his job a little easier, he said the white Labrador retriever doesn't deserve all the credit. "I mean, you've got to know where you are going," he said.



Dick Zlab wears several hats for the Radio Talking Book Service. In addition to station manager, technical engineer and announcer, Zlab also is a half hour radio show once a week.

"It's a neat place to work," he said. "There are over 150 volunteers who have been coming here to read for a long time. Some have been here for 15 years, and we have a lot who have been here for over 10."

Zlab said working with his own weekly program, "On the Road Again," also is a pleasure.

Along with his sighted partner, Jan Moritz, Zlab schedules visits to the zoo, museums, nature parks and historical landmarks to describe their experiences to listeners.

"A lady in a nursing home called one time," Zlab said, "and she said we take her places she'd never be able to go otherwise. That's the sort of thing that makes it all worthwhile."

From their weekly show came the idea to expand the art of description into theater.

Because of the show's popularity, Zlab and Moritz often conduct audio descriptions of live plays and other visual events for visually-impaired audiences. They eventually wish to do the same for video tapes and television.

From Zlab's homemade, fold-up sound booth, built in his basement woodworking shop, he and Moritz set up an in-house transmitter system for blind theater audiences.

Each person is given a receiver and an earphone, enabling them to hear the play from one ear and listen to descriptions of costumes, colors, lighting and characters.

"It's kind of like radio commentary," Moritz said.

Randall said even sighted audiences have expressed an interest in Moritz's descriptions.

Moritz said some theaters were skeptical at first because they did not understand how it could be done without distraction.

"But after they see it once, they understand and are more receptive," Moritz said. "We do it three times in the same theater, then they call us. We often bring 25 to 60 people with us when we come."

She said RTB acquires the tickets in bulk and distributes them to the visually-impaired people attending the plays. RTB also provides transportation to the theaters.

And Moritz agreed about the personal rewards received from providing these services.

"It is so wonderful to be able to give part of yourself," Moritz said. "If you haven't experienced that, you've missed out on a good part of living."

Since Moritz is a full-time student at UNO, has three children in college and a full-time job, she said her schedule is quite busy.

This year, she and Zlab plan to describe 23 different events — about two each month — and she insists that she is not too proud to ask for

help.

"I think it would be a wonderful opportunity for drama students wishing to fulfill a practicum in this way," she said, adding anyone who is interested could make good audio describers.

"And you always get back from this type of giving. The interest is growing all the time."

Moritz suggested that a person interested in audio description should sit down in front of a television first.

"Just to see if they can describe what is going on. If they can do this, and they enjoy it, they would make a good describer," she said.

Moritz said she will continue describing. "Dick said I had a gift. And now that I've seen those faces (of audience members) when they finally understand what is going on in a play, I'll never

Zlab agreed that a need for more help exists. "We always need more volunteers," he said. "On average, we only ask that they put in an hour each week. That's not much, but it's all appreciated."

Zlab said he met his wife of 20 years when they were obtaining seeing-eye dogs in Rafael, Calif.

"Her name is Jane," he said with a smile before mentioning the old "Dick and Jane" books from grade school.

"And his name is Spot," he laughed as he gestured toward Nacho. Nacho lifted his eyebrows, but left his head firmly planted on the carpeted floor.

One main misconceptions about seeing-eye dogs, Zlab said, is that the dogs stop for red lights.

"They are color blind, and they can't tell the difference between red or yellow or green," he said. "But if there is a car coming, he's not going to get run over. People think he's protecting me, but he's really protecting himself."

Back at the station, Nacho can usually be found close to his owner. Like Zlab, he seems content in his surroundings.

"Everything I ever wanted to do I'm doing right now," Zlab said. "And I'm doing it here."

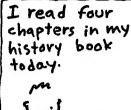
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-MELANIE WILLIAMS

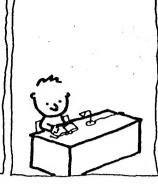
"Providing the link between these Individuals and the printed word takes a creative approach," said K. Casey Randall, Radio Talking Book Service executive director. "And that's what we're here for."

INSIGHT







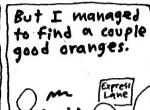
























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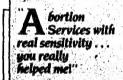
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In Chuck We Trust

Arlie, Arlene's younger self, made all the mistakes which put her in prison in the first place.

McCord said the theme of the play is the choice Arlene must face after "getting out."

"There doesn't seem like there's much of a choice," she said. "If she conforms to society's norms, she can have a fruitful,

"But she's not going to have a good job. She's not going to make a lot of money," McCord said, because Arlene carries the stigma of being and ex-convict. Her prison fantasy of changing her life isn't going to be easy, because she's stuck between a "rock and a hard place," she said.

Arlene isn't prepared to do anything. Although she has studied to be a beautician, she can't get her license because of her prior conviction. She can either work at minimum wage or return to a life a crime, a choice offered to her.

"The message is reality," McCord said. "We may not like it. What do you say to people sleeping on the street? If they go to a shelter, they'll be on the street again in two or three days.

"Our culture loves happy endings. When that doesn't happen. we feel cheated," she said.

McCord compared the message of the play to contemporary choices facing people. Today's youth have the opportunity to earn \$385 an hour selling drugs, or they can earn \$3.85 an hour at a fast food restaurant, she said.

"What do you do?" she asked. "This play is about that choice." Although a first for University Theatre, "Getting Out" has appeared on the UNO stage once before. The play was performed by Kearney State College performers during a college theater festival hosted by UNO in 1988.

Senior Stephanie Anderson, a veteran of many University Theatre productions as well as community theater projects, plays the part of Arlene.

Junior Debbie Rawlings, who appeared in 1989's companycreated "Carpe Diem," plays the younger Arlene in the character of Arlie.

Anderson said she had seen the Kearney State College production and previously had read "Getting Out."

"When I read it, I thought, 'What a great play. I'd love to be in it sometime." she said. Playing the part of Arlene, as well as working with McCord, was a "great opportunity" for her, Anderson said.

Rawlings agreed. "I wanted to work with Keryl," she said. "I hadn't read the play; I just wanted to audition for it.



Stephanie Anderson and Michael Etzrodt in "Getting Out."

"I was telling Stephanie how diverse she (McCord) is," Rawlings said. "She's so high spirited; she emanates glamour."

"It's nice to work with someone different," Anderson said. "It's nice to know the things you learn in class hold true for practical applications."

Although McCord hasn't worked with college students since she was in college, she said she has faith in her adopted com-

"I've pushed them really hard, but they've met my expectations." she said. "The show's two weeks away, and it's in good shape. Rehearsals for the production are going very well."

"We have to throw ourselves into it," Anderson said. "Mentally and physically, it's exhausting. Marsha Norman just beats you over the head with it."

"It" is Norman's message.

"The play says something about humans," Anderson said. "You can make your life better. It'll suck a lot of the time, but you can do it. You can go on."

While Arlene tries to improve her post-prison life, the play flashbacks to Arlie, and how she ended up incarcerated. Both women work around each other.

"We don't communicate throughout the play," Anderson said. "The flashbacks we see of Arlie directly relate to what's taking place with Arlene. We see why Arlene is who she is now."

Abused by her father and by her childhood, Arlie becomes a violent adolescent. Her path leads her out of public school and into reform school, and eventually into prison for murder.

"These are the factors that contribute," Rawlings said. But Arlie is not just a murderer.

Although her character has many negative attributes, she said she hopes her portrayal will provide a better understanding of

"You have to understand her," Rawlings said of Arlie. "She's violent and vulgar.

"But I hope it broadens the audience's perspective and provides a better understanding of Arlie's psyche." she said.

"We can't worry about how the audience reacts," Anderson said. When her character is raped, she said she can't worry about one of her parents thinking, "Look at what this man is doing to my

"It comes down to trusting the director," she said. "We're still in the growth stage."

Rawlings agreed. "But you also have to trust yourself. It's crucial.

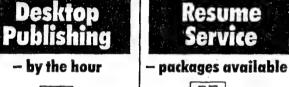
McCord will soon leave for New York City to attend the Broadway premier of "Truly Blessed," the story of singer Mahalia Jackson. The OET first produced the play last March, and a run at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C., followed.

After that, it's back to Oakland. Would she return?

"Oh, sure. I wouldn't have to hesitate," McCord said. "There's no question about it - I've had a really good time."

"Getting Out" will be performed April 20-22 and 27-29 in UNO's University Theatre, on the first floor of the Arts and Sciences Hall. The show starts at 8 p.m., and tickets go on sale April 16.

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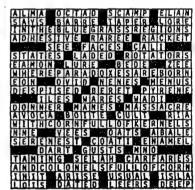
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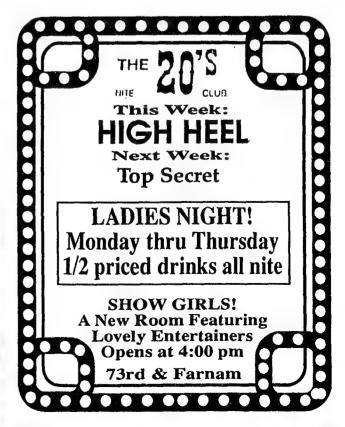
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EVENTS CALENDAR

FRIDAY

MUSIC:

Arthur's: Bozak and Morrissey Chicago Bar: Panic Panic Crazy Duck: Soul Gadget Dubliner: Cahir O'Doherty Elmo Fudd's: Kelly Devault Howard Street Tavern: The Jailbreakers Ranch Bowl: The Confidentials Saddle Creek Bar: Linoma Mashers The 20s: Highheel and the Sneekers

Eppley Administration Building: "The Little Thief" at 8 p.m.

THEATRE:

Center Stage Theatre: "Raisin" at 8 p.m. Chanticleer Theatre: "Jesus Christ Superstar" at 8

Firehouse Dinner Theatre: "Nunsense" at 8 p.m. Omaha Community Playhouse: "Social Security" at 8

Upstairs Dinner Theatre: "Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?" at 7 p.m.

COMEDY:

Funny Bone: Dak, Rick Tempesta, Rick Ellis at 8:30 p.m. and 10:45 p.m.

Noodles: Rick Shrader, Michael Blackman, Shea Degan at 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.

OTHER OPTIONS:

UNO Mallory Kountze Planetarium: "The Power!" at .m.q 8

Orpheum: Omaha Symphony Superpops conducted by Keith Brion in "Sousa Style"

UNO Thompson Alumni House: John McKenna, poetry reading and Richard Duggin, fiction reading

SATURDAY

MUSIC:

Arthur's: Bozak and Morrissey Chicago Bar: Panic Panic Crazy Duck: Guerilla Theatre Dubliner: Cahir O'Doherty Elmo Fudd's: Kelly Devault Howard Street Tavern: The Jailbreakers Ranch Bowl: The Confidentials Saddle Creek Bar: Linoma Mashers The 20s: Highheel and the Sneekers St. Peter's Hall: TripAkimbo, Just Friends, The Acorns

Eppley Administration Building: "The Little Thief" at 8 p.m.

THEATRE:

Center Stage Theatre: "Raisin"

Firehouse Dinner Theatre: "Nunsense" at 8 p.m. Omaha Community Playhouse: "Social Security at 8 p.m.

Upstairs Dinner Theatre: "A Winnie the Pooh Springtime Adventure" at 1 p.m. "Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?" at 7 p.m.

Theatre at the J: "Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris" at 9 p.m.

COMEDY:

Funny Bone: Dak, Rick Tempesta, Rick Ellis at 8:30 p.m. and 10:45 p.m.

Noodles: Rick Shrader, Michael Blackman, Shea Degan at 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.

OTHER OPTIONS:

UNO Mallory Kountze Planetarium: "The Little Star That Could" at 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.; "The Power!" at 8 p.m.

Omaha Children's Museum: Phyllis Dunne 1 p.m. and

Orpheum: Omaha Symphony Superpops conducted by Keith Brion in "Sousa Style" at 8 p.m.

MUSIC:

Arthur's: Sons of Rex Howard Street Tavern: Second Generation Ranch Bowl: On the Fritz

FILM:

Eppley Administration Building: "The Little Thief at 6

THEATRE:

Firehouse Dinner Theatre: "Nunsense" at 2 p.m. and 7

Chanticleer Theatre: "Jesus Christ Superstar" at 2 p.m.

Omaha Community Playhouse: "Social Security at 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Upstairs Dinner Theatre: "Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?" at 1 p.m.

Funny Bone: Dak, Rick Tempesta, Rick Ellis at 8:30 OTHER OPTIONS:

Noodles: Rick Shrader, Michael Blackman, Shea Degan at 8 p.m.

OTHER OPTIONS:

UNO Mallory Kountze Planetarium: "The Little Star UNO Pep Bowl: Earthwood (in conjunction with Earth That Could" at 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

VIONDAY

MUSIC:

Howard Street Tavern: Glass Eye The 20s: Top Secret

UESDAY

MUSIC:

Arthur's: The Fishheads

The 20s: Top Secret

Dubliner: Open Multimusic Jam hosted by Emerald

Howard Street Tavern: The Personics Ranch Bowl: On the Fritz

Firehouse Dinner Theatre: "Nunsense" at 8 p.m. Omaha Community Playhouse: "Social Security at 8

Funny Bone: Matt Berry, Dave "Mr. Happy" Sipe, Ron Osborne at 8:30 p.m.

SUNDAY 18 WEDNESDAY

MUSIC:

Arthur's: Rock City Howard Street Tavern: The Personics Ranch Bowi: Wynton Marsalis

Saddle Creek Bar: Acoustic Jam hosted by Earl Bates

The 20s: Top Secret

THEATRE:

Omaha Community Playhouse: "Social Security" at 8

Firehouse Dinner Theatre: "Nunsense" at 1 p.m. and 8

Upstairs Dinner Theatre: "Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?" at 1 p.m.

COMEDY:

Funny Bone: Matt Berry, Dave "Mr. Happy" Sipe, Ron Osborne at 8:30 p.m.

Civic Auditorium: Tangier Shrine Circus, with the Flying Wallendas

Orpheum: Omaha Symphony performs Debussy's "Printemps," Copland's "Appalachian Spring" and Stravinski's "Le Sacre du Printemps" at 8 p.m.

HURSDAY

MUSIC:

Arthur's: Rock City **Dubliner: Earl Bates** Howard Street Tavern: The Fishheads Ranch Bowl: On the Fritz The 20s: Top Secret

THEATRE:

Firehouse Dinner Theatre: "Nunsense" at 7:30 p.m. Omaha Community Playhouse: "Social Security" at 8

Upstairs Dinner Theatre: "Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?" at 7 p.m.

COMEDY:

Funny Bone: Matt Berry, Dave "Mr. Happy" Sipe, Ron Osborne at 8:30 p.m.

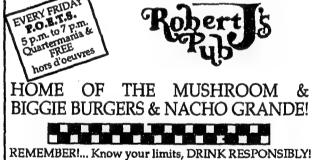
Noodles: Andy Kindler, Chip Chinnery, Diver Dan

OTHER OPTIONS:

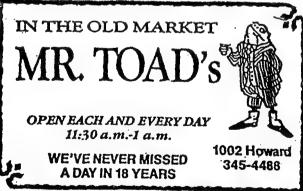
Civic Auditorium: Tangier Shrine Circus with the Flying Wallendas

UNO Pep Bowl: Louis Michael (piano rock) 11 a.m.

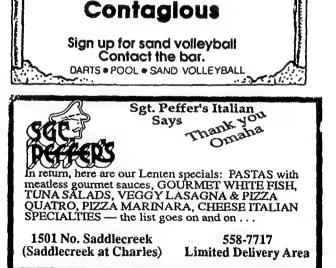




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Friday & Saturday





KEEPING UP WITH RICH



—Eric Francis

Rich Roberts types up his copy for a 5 p.m. broadcast. "We're under a lot of stress here because we have three deadlines a day."

After working in five cities in 10 years, Rich Roberts says he'd like to settle down

BY TONY FLOTT

s with Omaha's other sportscasters Friday, March 9, Rich Roberts' top story was the Big Eight basketball tournament. Planning to cover it in Kansas

City, the KMTV sportscaster was having trouble sleeping the eve of the tourney — nothing surprising since it was one of the most important sporting events of the year.

Roberts, however, had more than just problems dozing off.

"I woke up at 4 o'clock with a lot of pain in the middle of my chest and into my arm," Roberts said of that Friday morning. "It felt like somebody had put cinder blocks on my chest and were pressing down on them.

"I would lay on one side, the other side, on my back, even on my knees. I just couldn't sleep until 7:30 a.m. when the pain finally subsided."

Roberts, 31, said he thought the pain might have been related to his recent bout with bronchitis.

But after visiting the doctor that morning, where an EKG test turned up normal, he was given the OK to cover the tournament.

Once back, however, the pain returned.

"I said to my wife, "We've got to take care of this. It's really bothering me, " said Roberts, who with wife Arlene have three children, Jennifer, Jackie and Chris. "She was real upset about it, so we called the

doctor and went up to the hospital. It wasn't until Sunday that they said it was a heart attack."

Roberts, whose father suffered a heart attack at 37 and whose uncle suffered two heart attacks, said the experience was expected.

"Because of the family history, I just felt sooner or later it was going to happen to me," said Roberts, who was put on medication for the rest of his life.

"I think it has changed my attitude here at work," he said. "I think I'm hard on myself. I feel more relaxed now. I always used to push myself to the limit, and I don't want to do that anymore.

"We're under a lot of stress here because don't deal with it on a regular basis, we have three deadlines a day,"

"As I told the people at Gross H

Fellow Channel 3 sports anchor John Glenn said Roberts' new attitude is noticeable.

"He's trying to take things less personally and trying not too get too high or low on any specific item," Glenn said. "There's a lot of pressure in this business, and I think he's trying to take it more in stride."

KMTV Cameraman Scott Hohenshell agreed.

"He works real hard, and when something like that happens, it's kind of scary," Hohenshell said. "It's a serious thing, and now he has to deal with it for the rest of his life."

But Hohenshell added one important observation.

"I don't think it's going to slow him down."

Slowing Roberts down is not an easy task. Since graduating from the University of West Virginia in 1980, the Pennsylvania native has been a sportscaster in five different cities.

Starting his journalism career writing for West Virginia's student newspaper, Roberts eventually found his calling in broadcasting.

"I would hate to look back, I'm sure I was awful," said Roberts of his first job at a public broadcasting station in college.

"But I knew right then, I just knew, that I would be successful at it. I was confident in myself that I was going to give this a try and that it would payoff."

Roberts, a baseball and volleyball player at Plum High School near Pittsburgh, said he was determined to make the payoff involve the sports he grew up with.

"I can't stand news, I don't' like dealing with death and drugs," said Roberts in his neatly organized office complete with his ancient typewriter. "Although we obviously deal with those in sports sometimes, we don't deal with it on a regular basis.

"As I told the people at Gross High the other night, this isn't brain surgery, and we're not really affecting folks' lives on a life and death situation each night.

"We're supposed to be fun, and I think that's the way most of the guys in sports broadcasting feel."

Roberts obsession with sports wasn't confined to his job, either.

"I got so geared toward sports and sports writing and broadcasting during my final two years in college that I couldn't do papers unless they were sports-related," he said. "I had to do an economics paper once, and I did it on the rise and fall of the World Football League. That's how bad it got."

The obsession paid off when Roberts, following a six-month career selling life insurance, landed his first sportscasting job at WOAY in Oak Hill, W, Va...

"You go there, you make your mistakes, nobody cares and they pay you garbage — about \$150 a week," Roberts said of the experience.

After making his mistakes, Roberts took a move up the broadcasting ladder to WJTV

SEE ROBERTS ON PAGE 15

FROM THE SIDELINES OPINION BY FORMER GATEWAY SPORTS EDITORS

Days of Glory

By KEVIN COLE

As you know, Bid Daddy bit the dust. Bye-bye, Daddy-o. Hello my turn.

When asked to fill some space for the latest Gateway group, I thought: cute idea.

Offer the old guys a chance to reprise their glory days of college journalism. Appeal to their vanity.

You can write anything you want. Give us the benefit of your perspective. Tell it like it was or like it is or even like it will be.

OK. But remember, you asked. The Past.

Back in summer of 1983 somebody goofed. They named me sports editor.

I don't know if I worked up more of a sweat pedaling my 10-speed bike to school everyday or trying to dig up something interesting to fill my section. Dead-heat, dead-beat in the dog days of summer.

As the heat shimmered on Dodge Street and the copy withered on my typewriter, I wondered what kind of hell I had walked

Luckily, there was and escape hatch. If I didn't fill out the space we ran some never heard of syndicated rock 'n' roll columnist and pulled up a stool at the Dundee Dell.

But then fall rolled around and I found myself smack in the middle of a Golden Age for UNO sports.

Hey, Daddy-o, that was the time to be a sports editor on the campus rag. Roll on you mighty Mavs.

The footballers came pounding onto Al Caniglia Field with all the thunder and power you would expect from their counterparts in the wild while being chased by Marlin Perkins with a drug gun in a Land Royer.

With all-time UNO passing leader Randy Naran at the controls, that 1983 gang of 22 rolled to the North Central Conference title and into the NCAA Division II playoffs.

They did it again in 1984. It was a pleasure to stand on the sidelines or sit in the press box and feel the chills caused by the combination of a nifty Naran to James Quaites pass and the approving roar of 10,000 fans.

Yeah, Big Daddy-o, 10,000 fans. The Mavs packed 'em in. Cable college football hadn't saturated the town yet and people, even those apathetic students, got out to Caniglia on a very regular basis.

Eric Olson has already told you about the basketball team. And the volleyball team went to the final four. Best of times, no doubt.

uot. The Present.

Standing in the shoes of today's sports editor, I would probably be waging a major potshot campaign at the NCAA college prez's who quit diddling with whatever they usually diddle with and started diddling with spring practice rules.

Let's see if "boneheads" passes the spell check on this word processing machine. No, well leave it in anyway, Big Daddy-o, because it really applies to the ivory tower guys who eliminated practice in pads for Division II teams.

Where, oh brilliant academicians, does it

SEE COLE ON PAGE 15

PUS RECRE/

ISION OF EDUCATIONAL AND STUDENT

Intramural Sports Results

Sand Volleyball: April 1st games:
Shockers vs. DIABLOS
Pi Kappa Phi A vs. RUNAE'S TEAM
Pi Kappa Phi B vs. FABULOUS 6
SANDDIGGERS vs. Runae's Team
SHOCKERS vs. Pi Kappa Phi A
DIABLOS vs. Fabulous 6

April 8th games: SANDDIGGERS vs. Pi Kappa Phi A PI KAPPA PHI B vs. Shockers RUNAE'S TEAM vs. Diablos SANDDIGGERS vs Diablos Shockers vs. FABULOUS 6 PI KAPPA PHI A vs. Pi Kappa Phi B PI KAPPA PHI A vs. Pi Kappa Phi B

Co Rec Softball: March 20th games: SWEET YOUNG BATS... vs. Bad Attitudes Shockers vs. HYPERS SWEET YOUNG BATS... vs. Hpers Hackers vs. BAD ATTITUDES

April 3rd games; SHOCKERS vs. Hackers BAD ATTITUDES vs. Hypers SWEET YOUNG BATS...vs. Hackers Shockers vs. BAD ATTITUDES

Mens Softball: March 14th games; Theta Chi vs. SIG EPS B SIG EPS A vs. Pi Kappa Phi LOADED GUNS vs. Pikes B PIKES A vs. Lambda Chi

March 21st games; PIKES Avs. Sig Eps B Theta Chi vs. PIKES B Sig Eps Avs. LOADED GUNS PI KAPPA PHI vs. Lambda Chi

April 4th games; LAMBDA CHI vs. Sig Eps B Theta Chi vs. LOADED GUNS PIKES A vs. Sig Eps A PIKES B vs. Pi Kappa Phi

March 22nd matches;
Divot Doers vs. THE HACKERS
Aces vs. TEAM C
DIE HARD DIVOTERS vs Hper Women C and DC vs. TEAM B

April 5th matches; TEAM B vs. The Hackers ACES vs Hper Women Divot Doers vs. DIE HARD DIVOTERS Team C vs C AND DC

Mens Competitive 2 Tennis: March 19th matches; RUSS WEIS vs. Dale Miller HOUNG DIHN vs. Rick Hemming DIEN TRAN VS. Edward Kalule

April 2nd matches; DIEN TRAN vs. Dale Miller Russ Weis vs. DAVID HUYNH HOUNG DIHN vs. Jeff Nosek Rick Hemming vs. EDWARD KALULE

April 9th matches; EDWARD KALULE vs. Dale Miller Russ Weis vs. JEFF NOSEK DIEN TRAN vs. Houng Dihn DAVID HUYNH vs. Rick Hemming

Mens Competitive 1 Tennis:
March 19th matches;
KEITH NIELSEN vs. John Harris
Joseph Cox vs. GARRETT COLEMAN
RANDY JOHNSON vs. Paolo Castaldo
Steve Seyler vs. STEVE BRIM

April 2nd matches; Steve Seyler vs. JOHN HARRIS KEITH NIELSEN vs. Paolo Castaldo Joseph Cox vs. RANDY JOHNSON

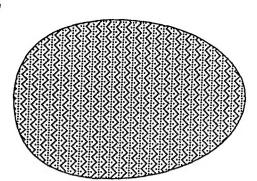
April 9th matches; STEVE SEYLER vs. Joseph Cox

Womens Competitive Tennis: March 19th matches; Mary Ellan Johnson vs. DEANNE BUCK

April 2nd matches; Clarena Jaramillo vs. DEANNE BUCK

Mens Recreational Raquetball: Jorge Geronimo vs. DALE MILLER

Mens Competitive Racquetball: First Round; KEN WOLTERMAN vs. Dave Petrocchi Second Round;
Dennis Scannell vs. KEVIN LAUGHLIN
SCOTT LONG vs. Jason Paladino
KEN WOLTERMAN vs. Glenn Baker Semi Finals; Ken Wolterman vs. KEN LAUGHLIN



The HPER Building will be closed this Sunday in observance of the Easter holiday.

INTRAMURAL SPORTS TRACK MEET

(no field events)



Registration Deadline: Tuesday, April 17 Event Date: Thursday, April 19, 6:30 p.m.

For more information or to sign up, stop by HPER Room 100

THE CAMPUS RECREATION LOCKER REFUND AND RENEWAL DEADLINE DATE IS FRIDAY, MAY 18

Locker Refund:

Failure to personally clear or renew your locker by the above date will result in a forteiture of the locker deposit and loss of personal items within the locker.

To receive a full refund bring lock and towel to Campus Recreation Office (Room 100).

Locker Renewal:

To maintain current locker for the upcoming year, come in person to the Campus Recreation Office (Room 100) and renew your locker prior to the deadline date.

REC-ING BRIEFS

•) April nominations for Campus Recreation student employee of the month are being accepted in the HPER Building. We welcome your nominations for any student worker who has performed their duties in an exceptional manner.

•) Spouses of UNO students, faculty, and staff are eligible to purchase a Campus Recrea-tion Activity Card. A validated student ID, or faculty/staff ID must be presented at time of purchase.

•) Paul Cerio, Supervisor of Aquatics, has returned from Aquatics, has returned from the National Convention for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, held in New Orleans. He exhibited a display for the National Aquatics Council.

•) Many staff members of the Campus Recreation department attended the National Intramurals, Recreation and Sports Association convention in St. Louis this past week. Staff members include: Ron Clark, Steve Guthrie, Carrie Wagner and Sharon Hemmer. They have returned with up-to-date and inspirational programming of campus recreation activities for the students, faculty and staff of UNO.

•) Charlie Talley and Sharron Hemmer, graduate assistants in Campus Recreation, have success-Examples Retreatible, have successive fully completed their Comprehensive Exams and are looking forward to graduation this spring. GOOD JOB AND CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

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Yori turns Lady Mav softball program around

By JAMES G. KUBCZAK

Having harnessed the power of positive thinking, UNO softball coach Mary Yori has guided the Lady Mavs to a 20-3 record and a No. 17 national ranking.

"Keeping a positive attitude and trying to be enthusiastic all the time helps the team," Yori said. "Your players pick up on these things."

Yori, however, wasn't always so confident.

"My first game as the head coach was down in Kansas," Yori said. "I was very nervous. Did I forget the bats or the balls? Was the whole team there? We had to make the score book look just right. Everything had to run smoothly."

But after two years at the helm, Yori said nervousness is no longer a problem.

"Since then, things have come 180 degrees," said Yori, who led UNO to a 25-19 record last year. "Today I'm not nervous at all. I'm just concerned with staying relaxed.

"This way, the team sees I'm relaxed, and they play relaxed.

You don't need a coach who is tense and uptight because it makes the players that way."

As a shortstop and center fielder for Creighton University. Yori was anything but uptight. Twice named All-American, Yori went on to serve as a Lady Jay assistant prior to coming

Connie Claussen, UNO Women's Athletic Coordinator said Yori's background made her ideal for the job.

"I was very excited," Claussen said. "I knew she would relate well and recruit well, and she has not disappointed me.

Claussen said Yori's positive attitude persists off the diamond.

"She always seems to have a smile on her face," Claussen said.

"She has the ability to relate to students and other coaches. Her door is always open."

Yori, however, added that her relaxed attitude masks a competitive nature.

"Everyone wants a winner," she said. "The pressure on me to win comes from being a competitor, from always playing on good teams.

"Seeing the players experiencing winning is one of my most enjoyable parts of coaching," Yori said.

"Another enjoyable aspect is to have a team that plays hard together, plays well together, meshes together as a unit and has a good time while they're doing it.

With the Lady Mavs' increased success this season, Yori said the positive thinking seems to be taking hold.

"I think the future of women's softball at UNO is headed in a positive direction," she said.

"We've got some good recruits coming in next year, and our players are finally experiencing winning. They understand what it takes. How hard you have to work, and how to have fun and win at the same time."

ROBERTS FROM PAGE 13

in Jackson, Miss.

Although he enjoyed his job, Roberts said his eyes were opened to the darker side of society, deeply rooted in the South.

"I experienced racial discrimination for the first time in my life," said Roberts, solemnly.

"I was sitting at work, and the producer, a guy I liked, said to me, 'Ten years ago, you would meet a black and they would get out of your way. They would step on the street for you," said Roberts, adding that the producer didn't use the term "blacks."

I was appalled, and I said, 'You've got to be kidding me.' He said, 'No, no. They would respect you. Not now, though."

Roberts also experienced discrimination of a different sort.

"Once they found out I was from the North, I was treated differently," Roberts said. "They didn't trust you, and they didn't like you. It was like they were still fighting the war."

The discrimination, coupled with the illness of his mother-in-law, caused Roberts to move closer to home, taking a job at WCJS in Charleston, W.Va., in 1983.

Roberts again kept the moving vans busy, proceeding to Greensboro, N.C., in 1986. While serving at WSMY as No. 2 sports anchor, he received a phone call from Loren Tobia, news director at Omaha's KMTV.

Tobia, who had admired Roberts' work while he was at a competing station in Greensboro, informed him of an opening at Channel 3 and asked him to pay Omaha a visit.



Rich Roberts in action with Creighton swimming coach Jack Johnson.

"I knew very little about the city," Roberts prised when I came out here. said. "I knew the Huskers were out here, Creighton, the College World Series and SAC. That's about it.

"Easterners have an image of a barren area with tumble weeds blowing around and cows all over the place. So I was pleasantly sur-

"I find myself defending it when I go back home. They'll say, 'Omaha? What the hell are you doing out there?"

Despite advice from Notre Dame basketball coach Digger Phelps, Roberts said he has no plans to leave Nebraska.

"Digger told me I should move on one more time, but I'm getting tired of moving," said Roberts, who recently signed a two-year contract. "Like anyone, I want to establish some roots, and as you get older, it gets harder to do. I'd like to let my daughter, Jennifer, graduate out here. We've moved her enough."

It is that concern for family and career that Hohenshell said epitomizes Roberts.

"I think he has done a hell of a job. Since Rich has come here, I think our sports has improved immeasurably," Hohenshell said. "That just comes from caring and paying attention to the details."

Glenn said he also has been impressed with Roberts.

"I've worked with a lot of guys in this business, and of all the sportscasters I've worked for, he's the best one."

But one person Roberts may not want to confer with when deciding on a move is his

"My wife sometimes wonders why she married because she hates sports," Roberts said jokingly. "I'll come home and ask if she watched me tonight. She'll say, 'I don't know, I fell asleep after the weather."

COLE FROM PAGE 13

make sense for players to practice for a sport without being able to approximate the conditions they must compete under?

I loved Coach Buda's analogy of it being like asking a student to take a test without studying for it. He's been pretty quiet since that point, which is understandable. I'm sure the administration thumbscrews are welloiled and ready if he should fire off any more salvos of common sense.

You can't have a football coach coming

off as more thoughtful and intelligent then the powers that be.

Then cut back the number of spring practices for Division I and II. Why? In the spring these guys have all kinds of time. It's the fall when juggling books, practice and game weekends gets hairy.

Editor's Note: Kevin Cole worked as sport editor and eventually editor of the Gateway from 1983-84 and is currently working in the Omaha World-Herald sports department.

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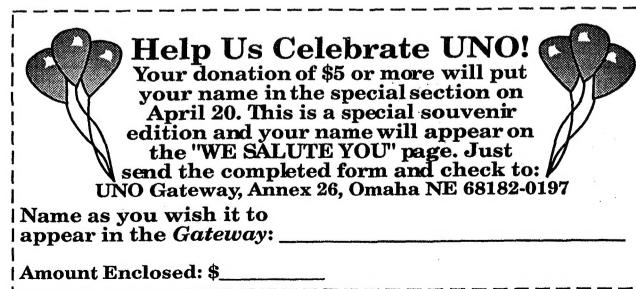
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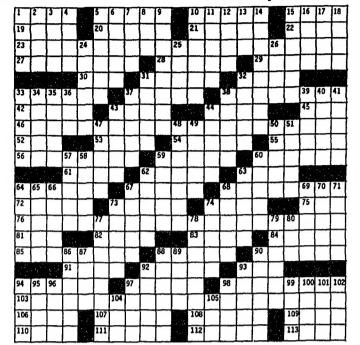
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